1: Ingrams G-5 (1934-35)1936 MM2 Hadhramaut MM2

than purely ethnographical considerations, and I certainly believe that with some assistance the present trend of progress in Qu'aiti territory and desire for peace and development in Kathīri territory could be co-ordinated to a common end.

So much for the treaty.* Unfortunately the spirit of it has not as yet been carried into effect. Mistrust still reigns supreme. This mistrust insists on the fulfilment of such a condition as correspondence by the Kathīris with the British being conducted through Qu'aiti channels. If the mistrust did not exist, this provision would be a natural one tending to the facility of the conduct of public business. On the other hand, such provisions as that requiring co-operation remains a dead letter, and any attempts to secure progress by the Kathīris seem doomed to obstruction by the Qu'aitis.

In October 1927, and May 1928, conferences were held at Singapore in which measures were discussed which might lead to the improvement of the two states, and proposals were even brought forward for the institution of an assembly composed of representatives of both states to " scrutinize the budget ", and concern itself with the interstate co-ordination of certain departmental activities. These conferences were of course not likely to have any far-reaching result, but they were interesting as showing the ideas that were being imbibed by Kathīri emigrants in the advanced environment of the Straits Settlements. Such democratic concepts, however, were not likely to find favour at the present stage of development of thought in the Hadhramaut.

In 1929 the Kathīri Sultan drew attention to the lack of co-operation and the difficulty of introducing schemes of reform, and he proposed that a conference should be assembled to discuss the matter. The Qu'aiti to whom the matter was referred expressed his readiness to hold such a conference, but although the idea was encouraged it subsequently came to nothing and was eventually postponed *sine die*.

Shortly before my visit to the Hadhramaut Sultan 'Umar made his state tour of his domains and of Kathīri territory. He was received everywhere with acclamation and appears to have played the role of beneficent prince. He was presented with a petition asking for reforms. Certain abuses were mentioned in the petition, and, in particular, attention was called to the fact that although taxes were heavy they were not applied to the benefit of the subjects. There were also complaints of insecurity and the unrestricted traffic in arms. The petition recited the conclusion of the Qu'aiti-Kathīri agreement of 1918 and several others since concluded by Qu'aitis and Kathīris. The part of the petition dealing with these further documents is as follows :—

" The next treaty between both Governments was concluded on 10th Shawāl 1336 (1918). There followed also a third pact, which was concluded on 30th Dhu'l Qada 1336, between the Qu'aiti Government on the one part and the Āl Tamim on the

* [Qu'aiti–Kathiri agreement of 1918 – Analyst]

1:Ingrams G-5 (1934 35)1936 MM2 Hadhramaut MM2

664 other concerning the protection of goods belonging to the sub-
185 jects. There is also a fourth pact wherein Your Highness undertook to take action against any party that should transgress against another party, to punish the offenders, restore looted property, and check the transgressors, according to this treaty, until such time as God wills. This treaty is dated 13th Jumād ath Thani 1342 (1923). It also embodies other conditions which have not been carried into effect.

"A fifth treaty was likewise concluded between Seiyid Hussein bin Hāmid al Mihdhār, representative of the Qu'aiti Government, on the one part, and the Sultan of the Āl Abdulla on the other, on 25th Ramadhan 1344 (1925). Thereafter an agreement was concluded between both the Governments, the Qu'aiti and the Āl 'Abdulla, on the one part, and the Āl 'Awāmir on the other. This pact is dated 12th Rajab 1345 (1926), and in it the Āl 'Awāmir undertook not to interfere with travellers belonging to either Government, or with other travellers, within their respective boundaries, even though they might happen to be in a state of war. This is the sixth pact.

"There is also a seventh treaty between Sultan Salih bin Ghalib bin 'Awadh al Qu'aiti on the one part, and the Sultans of the Āl 'Abdulla on the other. The first Article provides that: 'Both Governments should co-operate to bring about a settlement, and maintain peace and security, and set at rest all agitations and disturbances by any means which will lead to conciliation. In the event of the said measures not being successful they should use all possible power to enforce the same.' In the fourth Article it is laid down that 'Both Governments shall endeavour to take the necessary measures for the security of the routes, and the protection of the poor and others from the effect of the strife and fighting which invariably occur between the tribesmen.'"

The petition bore sixty signatures of the leading inhabitants of the Kathīri part of the valley, and purported to speak on behalf of the "Hadhrami nation". It was addressed to the Qu'aiti and Kathīri Sultans. I do not think that the petition was intended to be on behalf of the inhabitants of the Qu'aiti domain but it was rather directed against the working of Qu'aiti policy *vis à vis* the Kathīri. It was rejected by Sultan 'Umar on the ground that the petitioners were not representative, but it was supported by the Kathīri Sultan.

651 As regards taxation, the position is that goods entering the country
653 are taxed at Mukalla. If they are intended for the Kathīri part of the valley they are often taken by sea to Shihr where they are taxed again. None of this money is used in maintaining security on the road from Shihr to Tarim, and none of it is used to improve communications for the people by whom it is paid. The Al Kaf Seiyids have spent $180,000 in attempting to build a Tarim-Shihr

G. Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1947) 1949 MM1 Aden
Hadhramaut MM21

the development of agriculture and irrigation in Abyan has been much appreciated.

During the latter part of 1947 it was possible to station a Political Officer in the Abyan and Ahwar areas. His presence and the benefit of increased production in the area have contributed to the appreciable success of the Abyan experiment during the year.

EASTERN ADEN PROTECTORATE

In the Eastern Aden Protectorate considerable political activity was shown by various sections of the Qu'aiti and Kathiri states. In the former, two parties were formed in March, one the National party and the other the Hadhrami party. The latter is for Hadhrami unity, in which it agrees with the Seiyid party of the Kathiri state, which also showed some liveliness at the start of the year. Later, however, the Seiyids began to concentrate less on the general question of Hadhrami unity and more on the immediate question of escaping from paying double taxation. Several committees were formed with this object and in April a deputation waited on the Resident Adviser, whose answer to them was that it was for the Qu'aiti and Kathiri states to co-operate in the matter of lightening the burden of taxation of their subjects. Later the Seiyids sent a telegraphic plea to the Governor and Secretary of State.

Meanwhile the National party remained anti-Seiyid and, on the whole, anti-unity. In April they published a manifesto of their aims on the front page of the Aden newspaper, *Fatat-al-Jezira*.

The Arab cause in Palestine continued to arouse considerable sympathy in the Eastern Aden Protectorate. This came to a head in December after the United Nations Assembly had recommended partition and took the form of processions (without violence) and the opening of subscription lists. Telegrams were sent to the Secretary of State and there was a one-day strike in Mukalla and Sai'un.

In both Qu'aiti and Kathiri states democratic changes were made in the administration. In the latter a State Council was formed in April and met for the first time in May: it consists at present of three *ex-officio*, three official and three unofficial members. In June the Qu'aiti State Council Decree was amended to allow the representation of provincial communities with the intention of improving relations between the Government and the provinces. These communities were not previously represented.

Outstanding boundary disputes between the Qu'aiti and Kathiri states remained unsettled throughout the year.

Security continued to be disturbed throughout the year in the north-west on the boundaries with the Yemen and Sa'udi Arabia and to a lesser extent in the Wahidi area on the boundaries of the Western Aden Protectorate. In January the Kazimis looted a caravan on its way to Habban. In March there was a big raid by the Dahm and Abida (Yemeni) on the eastern coastal area. In May the Upper Aulaqi (who owe allegiance to no one) attacked Amaqin in Wahidi; in that month also the Sei'ar

7: Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1949-50) 1951 MM1 Aden
Hadhramaut MM2

912 *Northern Area.* In 1950 the desert posts were completed at Minwakh, Zimakh and Al Hajr, thus linking up the northern fort system with Al Abr and Asakir, and controlling all the important water points in the area. Since the establishment of these forts there has been no raiding at all in this area, or by tribes of this area upon other tribes.

631 *Eastern Areas.* After the settlement with the Menahil in 1948 this area remained quiet, and the Mukalla Regular Army fort at Som is now accepted by the tribes of the area. Recently the Naib of Shibam met the Muqaddam of the Menahil at Elinat. This went far to heal the breach between them and Government dating from 1947 when the tribe rose and attacked Government posts.

648 *Mahra—Socotra.* The Resident Adviser paid two visits to Socotra during 1949-50, one by sea and the other by air. Among subjects discussed with the Sultan were reports of famine conditions on the Island. The Resident Adviser strongly urged the Sultan to spend more time on the mainland, and agreed to arrange a meeting later in 1951 between the Qu'aiti and the Mahra to settle a frontier dispute at Museina. The Fisheries Officer visited the Mahra coast to study fishing conditions there.

General

731 As a result of the famine in 1949, there has been a notable decrease in the numbers of camels and goats, and as a result of delayed rains in Socotra the people there have suffered a similar loss. However, 1950 was a good year for the beduin, and more young camels are to be seen load-carrying now.

691 One of the chief complaints by the Bedu has been the delay caused by magistrates when judging Bedu cases. This matter has been investigated and is being put right.

● 664 619 Very recently a number of chiefs from the western tribes held a meeting and put in a joint petition to Government. The three points of the petition were (*a*) a complaint against the arms-carrying ban in Wadi Du'an ; (*b*) a complaint against truck owners carrying loads which are forbidden by Government's agreement with the Bedu ; and (*c*) a request for some of their old customs to be recognised. But so firmly is the peace now established that troublesome elements who attempted to support these demands by force were overruled by the majority. The Government is taking suitable action in this matter.

648 On 25th August, 1949, Colonel J. E. H. Boustead, D.S.O., O.B.E., M.C., assumed the appointment of British Agent, Eastern Aden Protectorate, and Resident Adviser to the Hadhramaut States and to the Wahidi State of Balhaf.

000 A table of Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes is given on p. 6.